

Date: 7th June 2024
Our ref: FOI/24/012710/E

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/24/012710/E

I write in connection with your request for information dated 30/05/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

people who have been wrongly accused of uploading child abuse imagery, based on their IP address. I am trying to get a nationwide picture so I am asking every force to answer the following:

Q1 How many cases of uploading child abuse imagery have you dealt with in the last 5 years?

Q2 How many of those were dropped without charge?

Q3 What can you say about why these people (if any) were targeted if there was no evidence of the crime on their devices?

Deadline: 1st July

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information and I can confirm the information requested is held by GMP.

Question 1

GMP have ran a search on the Home Office Crime Code 086/02 (Take/Make/Distribute Indecent Photographs or Pseudo-Photographs of Children) between 01/01/2019 and 31/12/2023 inclusive.

Year	Count of Crimes
2019	910
2020	1190
2021	1389
2022	1466

2023	1645
Total	6600

Question 2

The below table shows (out of the above crimes) which have not had a positive (solved) outcome applied.

Year	Count of Crimes
2019	779
2020	1011
2021	1203
2022	1366
2023	1587
Total	5946

Question 3 – This is an invalid question under the Freedom of Information act. We can only provide information which is held by the force and cannot provide opinions.
